

## Belmont Energy Committee Meeting Minutes – 12/16/2010

Attendees: Jan Kruse  
Jen Santoro  
Jim Palmer  
Anthony Alcorn  
Ian Todreas  
Chris McVay  
Roger Colton  
Ruth Foster  
Fred Domanici

Roger called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM.

Roger passed out copies of the last meeting and for the sake of time asked everyone to read the minutes outside the meeting and be prepared to accept these minutes at the next meeting.

### **Agenda:**

Roger proposed that the agenda have two items: tree planting code by-law and the stretch code.

### **Tree Planting:**

- Roger led the discussion of the tree planting by-law which could be brought before the Town Meeting. He related that many communities have adopted tree planting by-laws with good effect as related by Gene Brady of Brookline, who is a member of the State Association of Tree Wardens. Roger then described the different sections of the by-law.
- Ian asked if the town tree canopy can be increased to further carbon sequestration and secure the many other benefits of a healthy urban forest.
- Jan related that such a by-law to promote tree planting is an improvement over the current zero budget condition.
- Jan stated that we should get feedback from Peter and Glen on the matter.
- Chris moved to have the tree planting by-law brought to Town Meeting.
- Ruth read a prepared statement against the by-law, and then spoke further relating that the town does not have a tree planting budget, that Belmont is a member of RE-LEAF, and that the town has won many awards for its tree planting programs. (See Attachment)
- Jan seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **Stretch Code**

- Roger led the discussion on Town adoption of the Stretch Code. Roger passed out a summary matrix describing the Stretch Code and a several page Q&A on

the Stretch code. He related that the town must adopt the Stretch Code to become a Green Communities member. Also that if adopted at the July Town Meeting, the Stretch Code would become effective in January 2012.

- Tony related that the Stretch Code results in a 20% reduction of building heating and cooling energy over IECC 2009, the code now in effect.
- Chris questioned whether Glen is comfortable with the Stretch Code and suggested that we need to have his input.
- Ian related that our goal is to support the CAP which means that our job is now to promote the Stretch Code.
- Roger suggested that we put off a vote on bringing the Stretch Code to TM until Glen is present.

The next meeting will be on the second Thursday in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 AM

Submitted by Tony Alcorn, Recording Secretary

Attachment: Prepared statement by Ruth Foster